The Divine Liturgy of Our Father among the Saints Basil the Great

Deacon: Bless, Master.
Priest: Blessed is the Kingdom, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Great Litany

Deacon (or Priest):

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the good estate of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for those who with faith, reverence, and fear of God enter herein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For our most Blessed Metropolitan *N.,* for our lord, the Most Reverend Archbishop *Dmitri*, [*or* the Right Reverend Bishop *N.*] for the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For this God-protected land, its President, all civil authorities, and for those who serve in the armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For this city, for every city and country, and for those who in faith dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For travellers by land, by sea, and by air, for the sick and the suffering, for captives, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Remembering our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves, and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

During the Litany, the priest quietly prays the Prayer of the First Antiphon:

O Lord our God, whose might is incomparable, whose glory is incomprehensible, whose mercy is infinite, and whose love of man is ineffable, do Thou Thyself, O Master, in Thy tenderheartedness, look down upon us and upon this holy house, and grant us those who pray with us Thy rich mercies compassion.

Priest: For to Thee belong all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Three Antiphons: The Typicon *appoints the following Typical Antiphons for all Sundays of the year and all significant feasts on any day except Great Feasts of the Lord, which have their own festal antiphons.*

First Antiphon, Psalm 102

Bless the Lord, O my soul! Blessed art Thou, O Lord.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits:

Who cleanseth all thy transgressions, Who healeth all thine infirmities,

Who redeemeth thy life from destruction, who crowneth thee with mercy and compassion,

Who satisfieth thy desire with good things, thy youth shall be renewed like an eagle’s.

The Lord worketh mercies and judgment for all that are wronged. He made known His ways unto Moses, His will to the children of Israel.

Compassionate and merciful is the Lord, long-suffering and of great mercy.

He will not be wroth until the end; nor will He keep His anger forever.

Not according to our sins hath He dealt with us, nor according to our transgressions hath He rewarded us.

For as high as the heaven is above the earth, the Lord hath strengthened His mercy toward them that fear Him.

As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us.

As a father is compassionate to his children, so is the Lord compassionate to them that fear Him.

For He knew our frame, He remembered that we are dust.

As for man his days are as grass; as the flower of the field so shall he flourish; for the spirit passeth in him, and he shall not be: the place thereof shall know it no more.

But the mercy of the Lord is from ages to ages on those that fear Him; and His righteousness upon children's children, to such as keep His covenant and remember His commandments to do them.

The Lord hath prepared His throne in heaven; and His Kingdom shall be master over all.

Bless the Lord, all ye His angels powerful in might, that do His word hearing the voice of His words.

Bless the Lord, all ye His powers, ye servants of His that do His will.

Bless the Lord, all ye His works, in every place of His dominion.

Bless the Lord, O my soul! and all that is within me bless His holy name; blessed art Thou, O Lord.

Little Litany

Deacon (or Priest):

Again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remembering our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves, and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

During the Litany, the priest quietly prays the Prayer of the Second Antiphon:

O Lord our God, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance; preserve the fullness of Thy Church; sanctify those who love thy beauty of Thy house; glorify them in return by Thy divine power; and forsake us not who hope in Thee.

Priest: For Thine is the strength, and Thine are the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and

of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Second Antiphon, Psalm 145

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord in my life; I will sing unto my God as long as I shall be.

Trust not in princes, in the sons of men, in whom there is no salvation.

His spirit shall go forth, and he shall return to his earth; in that day all his thoughts shall perish.

Blessed is he who hath the God of Jacob for his helper, whose hope is in the Lord his God,

Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them,

Who keepeth truth forever, Who worketh judgment for them that are wronged, Who giveth food to the hungry.

The Lord looseth them that are fettered; the Lord maketh wise the blind; the Lord setteth up them that are cast down; the Lord loveth the righteous.

The Lord watcheth over the stranger, He shall uphold the orphan and the widow, but He shall destroy the way of the sinner.

The Lord shall be King forever, thy God, O Zion, from generation to generation.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Only-Begotten Son

Only-begotten Son and Immortal Word of God,
Who for our salvation didst deign to be incarnate
of the holy Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary,
who without change didst become man
and wast crucified, O Christ our God, trampling down death by death
who art one of the Holy Trinity,
glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit:
save us.

Little Litany

Deacon (or Priest):

Again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remembering our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves, and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

During the Litany, the priest quietly prays the Prayer of the Third Antiphon:

O Thou who hast bestowed on us these common and accordant prayers, and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in Thy name, Thou wilt grant their requests: fulfill even now the requests of

Thy servants as is expedient for them, granting us in this present age the knowledge of Thy truth, and in that to come, life eternal.

Priest: For Thou art a good God who lovest man, and unto Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Royal Doors are opened in preparation for the Little Entrance.

Third Antiphon, Beatitudes *(a hymn celebrating the Resurrection or the Saint of the day is inserted after each Beatitude verse from six to twelve in number, usually eight on Sundays.)*

In Thy Kingdom, remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be sated.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye when men shall revile you and persecute you, and shall say every evil against you falsely for my sake.

Rejoice and be glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Priest quietly prays during the entrance:

O Master, Lord our God, who hast appointed in heaven ranks and hosts of angels and archangels for the service of Thy glory, make there to be with our entrance an entrance of holy angels serving with us and with us glorifying Thy goodness. For to Thee belong all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Deacon: *Bless, Master, the holy entrance.*

Blessing with the sign of the Cross, the Priest says:

Blessed is the entrance of Thy saints, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Deacon: Wisdom. Attend.

Choir: Come let us worship and fall down before Christ;

(On Sundays) O Son of God who art risen from the dead save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

(On Weekdays) O Son of God who art wondrous in Thy saints save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

(Feasts of the Theotokos) O Son of God through the prayers of the Theotokos save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Troparia and Kontakia of the Day *(See back of bulletin; the number and order varies considerably. These are the main hymns expressing the meaning of the day's celebration.)*

The Priest prays quietly during the singing of the troparia:

O holy God, who restest in Thy Saints, who art hymned by the Seraphim with thrice-holy voices, and art glorified by the Cherubim and worshipped by all the heavenly powers, and who from non-being hast brought all things into being, who hast created man after Thine image and likeness, and hast adorned Him with Thine every gift, who givest to Him that asketh wisdom and understanding, and who despisest not him that sinneth, but hast set forth repentance unto salvation, who hast vouchsafed us, Thy humble and unworthy servants, even at this hour, to stand before the glory of Thy holy Altar and to offer thee due worship and glorification: Thyself, O Master, accept even from the mouths of us sinners the Thrice-holy Hymn and visit us in Thy loving-kindness. Pardon us every offense, voluntary and involuntary, sanctify our souls and bodies, and grant us to serve Thee in holiness all the days of our life, through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos and all the Saints, who from everlasting have been well-pleasing unto Thee.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For holy art Thou, O our God, and unto Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever—

Deacon: O Lord, save the pious—

Choir: O Lord, save the pious.

Deacon: and hear us—

Choir: And hear us.

Deacon: and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

But if the Priest serves without a Deacon:

Priest: For holy art Thou, O our God, and unto Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Deacon: O Lord, save the pious—

Choir: O Lord, save the pious.

Deacon: and hear us—

Choir: And hear us.

Trisagion

Choir: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us!

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us!

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.
Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us!

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But on the Third Sunday of Lent, the Veneration of the Precious Cross, in place of the Trisagion we sing:

Before Thy Cross we bow down in veneration, O Master, and Thy holy Resurrection we glorify.

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And on the Holy Saturday, in place of the Trisagion we sing:

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia.

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Deacon: Let us attend.
Priest: Peace be to all.
Deacon: Wisdom!

Prokeimenon

The Reader announces the Prokeimenon.
The choir and reader sing the Prokeimenon

Tone 1 (Psm 23:22): Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, as we have set our hope on Thee.

Tone 2 (Psm 117:14): My might and song is the Lord, and He is become my salvation.

Tone 3 (Psm 46:6): Sing psalms unto our God, sing psalms; sing psalms unto our King, sing psalms.

Tone 4 (Psm 103:24): How great are Thy works become, O Lord; in wisdom hast Thou made them all.

Tone 5 (Psm 11:8): Thou, O Lord, shalt keep us and guard us from this generation and forevermore.

Tone 6 (Psm27:9): Save, O Lord, Thy people, and bless thine inheritance.

Tone 7 (Psm 28:11): The Lord will give strength to His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace.

Tone 8 (Psm 75:11): Pray ye, and render unto the Lord our God.

After the Prokeimenon,
Deacon: Wisdom!

Epistle

The Reader announces the Epistle Reading.
Deacon: Let us attend.
The Reader reads the appointed Epistle reading(s).
Priest: Peace be to thee that readest.
Reader: And to thy spirit.
Deacon: Wisdom!

Alleluia & Gospel

The reader announces the Alleluia and the choir sings it.
The priest reads the Prayer before the Gospel quietly during the Alleluia:

Make shine in our hearts, O Master who lovest man, the incorrupt light of Thy divine knowledge, and open the eyes of our mind to the comprehension of the preaching of Thy Gospel. Instill in us also the fear of Thy blessed commandments that, trampling down all carnal desires, we may pursue a spiritual way of life, both considering and doing all things well-pleasing unto Thee. For Thou art the enlightenment of our

souls and bodies, O Christ God, and unto Thee do we send up glory, together with Thy Father who is without beginning, and Thine all-holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

If a Deacon is serving:

Deacon: Bless, Master, him that proclaimeth the Gospel of the holy Apostle and Evangelist *name*.

Priest: May God, through the intercessions of the holy, glorious, all-laudable Apostle and Evangelist *name*, grant utterance with great power unto thee that proclaimest the good tidings, unto the fulfillment of the Gospel of His beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Deacon: Amen.

If no Deacon is serving:

Priest: Wisdom! Attend. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to *name*.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Priest: Let us attend.

The Deacon reads the appointed Gospel lesson(s).

Priest: Peace be to thee that proclaimest the Gospel.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

The Homily is usually given at this time.

The Augmented Litany

Deacon (or Priest): Let us all say with all our soul and with all our mind, let us say—

Choir: Lord, have mercy *(once)*.

O Lord Almighty, the God of our fathers, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy *(once)*.

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy *(thrice)*.

Again we pray for pious Orthodox Christians.

Choir: Lord, have mercy *(thrice)*.

Again we pray for our Most Blessed Metropolitan *N*. for our lord, the Most Reverend Archbishop *N*. [*or* the Right Reverend Bishop *N*.], and for all our brethren in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy *(thrice)*.

Again we pray for this God-protected land, its President, all civil authorities, and for those who serve in the armed forces.

Choir: Lord, have mercy *(thrice)*.

Again we pray for our brethren, the priests, the hieromonks, the hierodeacons, and for all our brotherhood in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy *(thrice)*.

Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable most holy Orthodox Patriarchs, the founders of this holy church, for *NN*., and all our fathers and brethren, the

Orthodox gone to rest before us, who lie here and everywhere.

Choir: Lord, have mercy *(thrice)*.

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, pardon, and forgiveness of sins of the servants of God *NN.*, and of our brethren of this holy temple.

Choir: Lord, have mercy *(thrice)*.

Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and revered temple, for those who labor and those who sing, and for the people present, who await of Thee great and rich mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy *(thrice)*.

The priest silently prays during the litany:

O Lord our God, accept this fervent supplication from Thy servants and have mercy on us according to the multitude of Thy mercies, and send down Thy compassion upon us and upon all thy people, who await from Thee a rich mercy.

Priest: For Thou art a merciful God who lovest man, and unto Thee do we sent up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Royal Doors are closed if they were not closed after the homily.

Litany for the Catechumens

Deacon: Pray ye unto the Lord, ye catechumens.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Ye faithful, pray for the catechumens.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That the Lord may have mercy on them.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That He may instruct them in the Word of truth.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That He may reveal unto them the Gospel of righteousness.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That He may unite them unto His Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Save them, have mercy on them, help them, and keep them, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Bow your heads unto the Lord, ye catechumens.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

The Priest silently reads the Prayer for the Catechumens during the Litany:

O Lord our God, who dwellest on high and lookest upon the humble, who hast sent forth as the salvation of the race of men Thine only begotten Son, and God, our Lord Jesus Christ, look upon Thy servants the catechumens, who have bowed their necks before Thee. Vouchsafe unto them in due time the laver of regeneration, the forgiveness of sins, and the robe of incorruption. Unite them to Thy Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, and number them with Thine elect flock—

Priest: That with us they also may glorify Thine all-honorable and magnificent name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

First Litany of the Faithful

Deacon: As many as are catechumens, depart. Catechumens, depart. As many as are catechumens, depart. Let no catechumen remain. As many as are of the faithful, again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Wisdom!

The priest silently prays the First Prayer of the Faithful

Thou, O Lord, hast shown us this great mystery of salvation. Thou hast vouchsafed us, Thy humble and unworthy servants, to be the ministrants of Thy holy Altar. Make us sufficient with the power of the Holy Spirit for this service, that, standing uncondemned before Thy holy glory, we may offer Thee a sacrifice of praise, for Thou art He that worketh all things in all men. Grant, O Lord, that our sacrifice for our own sins and for the ignorance of Thy people may be acceptable and well-pleasing before Thee.

Priest: For to Thee belong all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Second Litany of the Faithful

Deacon (or Priest):

Again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The following four petitions are taken only when a deacon serves:

For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the good estate of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for those who with faith, reverence, and fear of God enter herein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Wisdom!

The priest silently prays the Second Prayer of the Faithful during the Litany.

O God, who in mercy and compassion hast looked upon our humility, who hast set us, Thy humble, and sinful, and unworthy servants before Thy holy glory to minister at Thy holy Altar, strengthen us by the power of Thy Holy Spirit for this service, and grant us utterance in the opening of our mouths to call the grace of Thy Holy Spirit upon the gifts which are about to be set forth.

Priest: That being kept always under Thy might, we may send up glory unto Thee, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Royal Doors are opened for the Great Entrance. The Deacon censes while the Priest prays this prayer quietly:

None is worthy among those bound with carnal desires and pleasures to approach or draw night or to minister to Thee, O King of glory, for to serve Thee is a great and fearful thing even unto the heavenly Powers. Nevertheless, through Thine ineffable and immeasurable love of man, without change or alteration Thou didst become man and didst take the name of our High Priest and deliver unto us the priestly rite of this liturgical and bloodless sacrifice, for Thou art Master of all. Thou alone, O Lord our

God, art Master over those in heaven and on earth, who on the throne of the Cherubim art borne, who art Lord of the Seraphim and King of Israel, who alone art holy and restest in the Saints. I implore Thee, therefore, who alone art good and ready to listen, look down upon me a sinner and Thine unprofitable servant, and purify my soul and heart from an evil conscience, and, by the power of Thy Holy Spirit, enable me, who am clothed with the grace of the priesthood, to stand before this Thy holy table and to perform the sacred rite of Thy holy, immaculate Body and precious Blood. For Thee do I approach, and bowing my neck I pray thee, turn not away Thy face from me, neither cast me out from among Thy children, but make me, Thy sinful and unworthy servant, worthy to offer unto Thee these gifts, for Thou Thyself art He that offereth and is offered, that accepteth and is distributed, O Christ our God, and unto Thee do we send up glory, together with Thy Father, who is without beginning, and Thine all-holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Great Entrance

The Choir sings the Cherubic Hymn in one of the two following translations:

Let us who mystically represent the Cherubim, and who sing the thrice-holy hymn to the life-creating Trinity, now lay aside all earthly cares.

or

We, the Cherubim mystically representing, and to the life-creating Trinity the thrice-holy hymn with them singing, all life's cares now lay aside—

The Entrance is made with all reverently standing still and silent.

Deacon: The Lord God remember us all in His Kingdom, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The priest makes the commemorations.

His Beatitude, the most-blessed *name*, Archbishop of Washington and New York, Metropolitan of all America and Canada, and His Eminence (or Grace) the most (right) reverend *name*, Archbishop (Bishop) of Dallas and the South, the Lord God remember in His Kingdom, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Various commemorations for living and departed may be made here.

You and all Orthodox Christians, the Lord God remember in His kingdom, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Choir sings the second half of the Cherubic Hymn:

Amen. That the King of all we may receive by angelic hosts invisibly escorted. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

But on Great and Holy Thursday, we sing:

Of Thy mystical Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant, for I will not speak of Thy mystery to Thine enemies, neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss, but like the thief will I confess Thee: Remember me, O Lord, in Thy kingdom.

Amen. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

And on Great and Holy Saturday, we sing:

Let all mortal flesh keep silent, and in fear and trembling stand, pondering nothing earthly minded. For the King of kings and the Lord of lords cometh to be slainto give Himself as food to the faithful.

Amen. Before Him go the ranks of angels: all the Principalities and Powers; the many-eyed Cherubim, and the six-winged Seraphim, covering their faces, singing the hymn: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Litany after the Entrance

Deacon (or Priest):

Let us complete our prayer unto the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For the precious gifts now offered, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for those who with faith, reverence, and fear of God enter herein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

An angel of peace, a faithful guide and guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Pardon and forgiveness of our sins and offenses, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

All things good and useful for our souls and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

That we may end the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

A Christian ending to our life, painless, unashamed, peaceful, and a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Remembering our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

The priest silently prays the Prayer of the Prothesis during the Litany.

O Lord our God, who hast created us, and hast brought us into this life, who hast shown us the way to salvation, and hast bestowed upon us the revelation of heavenly mysteries: Thou art He who hath placed us in this service by the power of Thy Holy Spirit. Be pleased, therefore, O Lord, that we may be servitors of Thy new Covenant, ministers of Thy holy Mysteries. Accept us who draw nigh to Thy holy Altar, according to the multitude of Thy mercy, that we may be worthy to offer unto Thee this rational and bloodless sacrifice for our sins and for the ignorance of Thy people, which do Thou accept upon Thy holy, and most heavenly , and ideal Altar for an odor of sweetness, and send down upon us in return the grace of Thy Holy Spirit. Look down upon us, O God, and behold this our worship, and accept it as Thou didst accept the gifts of Abel, the sacrifices of Noah, the whole-burnt offerings of Abraham, the priestly offices of Moses and Aaron, the peace offerings of Samuel. Even as thou didst accept from the holy Apostles this true worship, so also do Thou in Thy loving-kindness, O Lord, accept from the hands of us sinners these gifts, that having been vouchsafed blamelessly to minister at Thy holy Altar, we may find the reward of faithful and wise stewards, in the fearful day of Thy just retribution.

The Priest exclaims: Through the compassions of Thine only-begotten Son, with whom Thou art blessed, together

with Thine all-holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Let us love one another that with one accord we may confess:

Choir: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the Trinity, One in essence, and Undivided.

Deacon: The doors, the doors! In wisdom let us attend!

The Symbol of Faith *(Nicene Creed)*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages; Light of Light, true God of true God; begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father; by whom all things were made.

Who for us men and our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man. And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of the Father.

And He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; of His kingdom there shall be no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets.

In one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church;

I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins;

I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come. Amen.

The Anaphora

Deacon: Let us stand aright. Let us stand with fear. Let us attend, that we may offer the holy Oblation in peace.

Choir: A mercy of peace, a sacrifice of praise.

Priest: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

Choir: And with thy spirit.

Priest facing east: Let us lift up our hearts.

Choir: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks unto the Lord. *(bow to waist on Sunday; prostration on other days)*

Choir: It is meet and right to worship the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Trinity one in essence and undivided.

Priest: O Thou who art Master, Lord God, Father Almighty, adorable: it is truly meet and right, and befitting the magnificence of Thy holiness that we should praise Thee, hymn Thee, bless Thee, worship

Thee, give thanks unto Thee, and glorify Thee, the only God who truly art, and offer unto Thee with a broken heart and the spirit of humility this our rational worship, for Thou art He that hath bestowed upon us the knowledge of Thy truth. And who is sufficient to speak of Thy mighty acts, to make all Thy praises to be heard, or to declare all thy wonders at every time?

O Master of all, Lord of heaven and earth, and of all creation both visible and invisible, who sittest upon the throne of glory, and lookest upon the depths, who art without beginning, invisible, incomprehensible, uncircumscript, immutable, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: our great God and Savior, our hope, who is the image of Thy goodness, the seal of equal type, in Himself showing forth Thee, the Father, Living Word, true God, the Wisdom before the ages, the Life, Sanctification, Power, the true Light, through whom the Holy Spirit was revealed: the Spirit of truth, the Gift of adoption, the Pledge of an inheritance to come, the First-fruits of eternal good things, the life-creating Power, the Fountain of sanctification, by whom enabled, every rational and intelligent creature doth worship Thee, and send up to Thee everlasting doxology, for all things are Thy servants.

Yea, Angels and Archangels, Throne, Dominions, Principalities, Authorities, Powers, and the many-eyed Cherubim praise Thee. Round about Thee stand the Seraphim, one with six wings and another with six wings, and with twain they cover their faces, and with twain thy fly, calling out to

one another with unceasing voices and unending doxologies—

Singing the hymn of victory, crying, calling, and saying:

Choir: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord of Sabaoth, heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Priest: With these blessed Powers, O Master, Lover of man, we sinners also do cry out and say: Holy art Thou, in truth, and all-holy, and there is no measure to the magnificence of Thy holiness, and holy art Thou in all Thy works, for in righteousness and true judgment hast Thou brought about all things for us.

When Thou hadst fashioned man, taking dust from the earth, and hadst honored him with Thine own image, O God, Thou didst set him in a paradise of plenty, promising him life immortal and the enjoyment of eternal good things in the observance of Thy commandments. But when he disobeyed Thee, the true God, who had created him, and was led astray by the deceit of the serpent, and was slain by his own trespasses, Thou didst banish him, in Thy righteous judgment, O God, from Paradise into this world, and didst turn him back to the earth from which he was taken, dispensing salvation for him through regeneration, which is in Thy Christ Himself.

Yet Thou didst not turn Thyself away till the end from Thy creature which Thou hadst made, O Good One, neither didst Thou forget the work of Thy hands, but Thou didst look upon him in divers manners, through

Thy tenderhearted mercy. Thou didst send forth prophets; Thou has wrought mighty works through the Saints who in every generation have been well-pleasing unto Thee; Thou didst speak to us by the mouths of Thy servants the prophets who foretold to us the salvation which was to come; Thou didst give the Law as a help; Thou didst appoint guardian angels.

And when the fullness of time was come, Thou didst speak unto us through Thy Son Himself, by whom also Thou madest the ages; who being the brightness of Thy glory and the express image of Thy person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, deemed it not robbery to be equal to Thee, the God and Father. But albeit He was God before the ages, yet He appeared upon earth and sojourned among men; and was incarnate of a holy Virgin, and did empty Himself, taking on the form of a servant, and becoming conformed to the body of our humility, that He might make us conformed to the image of His glory.

For as by man sin entered the world, and by sin death, so Thine only-begotten Son, who is in Thy bosom, God and Father, was well-pleased to be born of a woman, the holy Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, to be born under the Law, that He might condemn sin in His flesh, that they who were dead in Adam might be made alive in Thy Christ Himself, and, becoming a citizen in this world, and giving ordinances of salvation, He removed from us the delusion of idols

and brought us unto a knowledge of Thee, the true God and Father, having won us unto Himself for His own people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and being purified with water, and sanctified by the Holy Spirit, He gave Himself a ransom to death, whereby we were held, sold under sin.

And having descended into hell through the Cross, that He might fill all things with Himself, He loosed the pains of death, and rose again from the dead on the third day, making a way for all flesh unto the Resurrection from the dead—for it was not possible that the Author of life should be holden of corruption—that He might be the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep, the first-born from the dead, that He might be all, being first in all.

And, ascending into heaven, He sat down at the right hand of Thy majesty on high, and He shall return to render unto everyone according to his works.

And He hath left with us as remembrances of His saving Passion these Things which we have set forth according to His commandment. For when He was about to go forth to His voluntary, and celebrated, and life-creating death, in the night in which He gave Himself up for the life of the world, He took bread in His holy and immaculate hands, and when He had shown it unto Thee, the God and Father, and given thanks, and blessed it, and hallowed it, and broken it—

He gave it to His holy disciples and apostles, saying, Take, eat, this is My Body, which is broken for you for the forgiveness of sins.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Likewise, having also taken the cup of the fruit of the vine, and mingled it, and given thanks, and blessed and hallowed it—He gave it to His holy disciples and Apostles, saying, Drink ye all of this; this is My Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Remembering this saving commandment and all those thing which came to pass for us: the Cross, the grave, the Resurrection on the third day, the Ascension into heaven, the sitting down at the right hand, the second and glorious coming again—

The Priest elevates the offered gifts and exclaims:

Thine own of Thine own we offer unto Thee on behalf of all and for all.

Choir: We hymn Thee, we bless Thee, we give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, and we pray unto Thee, O our God.

The Priest quietly prays while the choir sings:

Because of this, O all-holy Master, we also, Thy sinful and unworthy servants, whom Thou hast made worthy to minister at Thy holy Altar, not through our own righteousness, for we have done nothing good upon the earth, but because of Thy mercies and

compassion, which Thou hast richly poured out upon us, dare to draw night to Thy holy Altar, and, presenting unto Thee the antitypes of the holy Body and Blood of Thy Christ, we pray Thee and call upon Thee, O Holy of Holies, by the favor of Thy goodness, that Thy Holy Spirit may come upon us and upon these Gifts here set forth, and bless them and hallow them, and show—

O Lord, who at the third hour didst send down Thine all-holy Spirit upon Thine Apostles, take not the Same from us, O Good One, but renew Him in us who pray unto Thee.

Deacon: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Priest: O Lord, who at the third hour...

Deacon: Cast me now away from Thy face, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Priest: O Lord, who at the third hour...

Deacon: Bless, Master, the holy bread.

Priest: —this Bread to be itself the precious Body of our Lord, and God, and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Deacon: Amen. Bless, Master, the holy cup.

Priest: And this Cup to be itself the precious Blood our Lord, and God, and Savior, Jesus Christ: shed for the life of the world and its salvation.

Deacon: Amen. Bless, Master, both.

Priest: Changing them by Thy Holy Spirit.

Deacon: Amen. Amen. Amen.

Priest: And as for us all, partakers of the one Bread and of the Cup, do Thou unite to one another unto communion of the one Holy Spirit, and make none of us to partake of the holy Body and Blood of Thy Christ unto judgment or unto condemnation, but that we may find mercy and grace with all the saints who have ever been well-pleasing unto Thee: Forefathers, Fathers, Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles, Preachers, Evangelists, Martyrs, Confessors, Teachers, and with every righteous spirit in faith made perfect— Especially our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary.

Hymn to the Theotokos

Choir: All of creation rejoiceth in thee, O Full of Grace, the assembly of angels and the race of men. O Sanctified Temple and spiritual Paradise, the glory of virgins, of whom God was incarnate and became a child—our God before the ages. He made thy body into a throne, and thy womb He made more spacious than the heavens. All of creation rejoiceth in Thee, O Full of Grace. Glory to thee!

But on Holy Thursday we sing:

Come, O faithful, let us enjoy the Master's hospitality, the banquet of immortality. In the upper chamber with uplifted minds, let us receive the exalted words of the Word whom we magnify.

And on Holy Saturday, we sing:

Do not lament Me, O Mother, seeing Me in the tomb, the Son, conceived in the womb without seed. For I shall arise and be glorified with eternal glory as God. I shall exalt all who magnify thee in faith and in love.

Priest: With the holy Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John, the holy glorious, and all-laudable Apostles, Saints *NN.* whose memory we celebrate, and all Thy Saints, at whose supplications do Thou look upon us, O God.

And remember all those who have fallen asleep heretofore in the hope of resurrection unto life eternal.

And he remembers by name whom he will of those who have fallen asleep:
For the repose and forgiveness of the souls of thy servants NN., in a place of light whence sorrow and sighing are fled away. And give them rest where the light of thy face watcheth over them.

Priest: Again we pray Thee, remember, O Lord, the Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, which is from one end of the world to the other, and give peace to Her whom Thou hast purchased with the precious Blood of Thy Christ, and establish Thou this holy house, even unto the consummation of the age.

Remember, O Lord, those who have offered unto Thee these Gifts, and those for whom and through whom and the ends whereunto they are offered.

Remember, O Lord, those who bear fruit and do good works in Thy holy churches, and who remember the needy; requite them with Thy rich and heavenly gifts;

give them things heavenly for things earthly, things eternal for things temporal, things incorruptible for things corruptible.

Remember, O Lord, those in the deserts, the mountains, and in the caverns and pits of the earth.

Remember, O Lord, all those who continue in virginity and devotion, and in asceticism and a sober way of life.

Remember, O Lord, this God-protected land, its President, all civil authorities, and those who serve in the armed forces; grant them peaceful times, that we also in their tranquility may lead a calm and quiet life in all piety and sobriety. In Thy goodness guard those that are good, and make good those that are evil, by Thy loving-kindness.

Remember, O Lord, the people present, those that for good cause are absent, and have mercy on them and on us, according to the multitude of Thy mercies. Fill their garners with every good thing; guard their marriage bond in peace and in oneness of mind; rear the infants; train the young; support the aged; encourage the fainthearted; gather together the scattered, and lead back those who wander astray, and join them to Thy Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. Free those who are vexed by unclean spirits; travel with those that journey by land, by sea, and by air; protect the widows; defend the orphans; deliver the captives; heal the sick. And those that are under trial, in the mines, in exile, in bitter bondage, in every

tribulation, necessity, and danger, do Thou remember, O God.

And all those that are in need of Thy great goodness of heart, and those also who love us, and those who hate us, and those who have commanded us the unworthy to pray for them, do Thou remember, O Lord our God, and all Thy people, and upon all pour out Thy rich mercy, granting to all their petitions which are unto salvation.

And those whom we through ignorance or forgetfulness or the multitude of names have not remembered, do Thou Thyself remember, O God, who knowest the age and name of each, and knowest every man even from his mother's womb. For Thou art the Helper of the helpless, the Hope of the hopeless, the Savior of the storm-tossed, and Haven of the voyager, the Physician of the sick. Be Thou Thyself all things to all men, O Thou who knowest every man, his petitions, each house, and its need. Deliver, O Lord, this city and every city *(*or *this village* or *this abode)*, and country from famine, pestilence, earthquake, flood, fire, the sword, foreign invasion, and civil war.

Among the first, remember, O Lord, our most Blessed *N*, Archbishop of Washington and New York, Metropolitan of all America and Canada, and our lord, the (right, most) Reverend *N.*, (arch)bishop of Dallas and the South, whom do Thou grant unto Thy holy churches in peace—safe, honored, healthy, long-lived—rightly dividing the word of Thy truth.

Choir: And all mankind.

Priest: Remember, O Lord, every bishop of the Orthodox, rightly dividing the word of Thy truth.

Remember, O Lord, according to the multitude of Thy compassions, my unworthiness; pardon me every offense both voluntary and involuntary, and withhold not, because of my sins, the grace of Thy Holy Spirit from these Gifts here set forth.

Remember, O Lord, the priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, and every priestly rank, and put not to confusion any one of us that stand about Thy holy Altar.

Look upon us with Thy loving-kindness, O Lord; reveal Thyself unto us in Thy rich compassions; grant us temperate and prosperous seasons; give peaceful showers upon the earth unto fruitfulness; bless the crown of the year in Thy loving-kindness; make schisms in the Church to cease; quench the ragings of the nations; speedily destroy, by the power of Thy Holy Spirit, uprisings of heresies; receive us all into Thy kingdom, showing us to be the children of the light and of the day; and grant unto us Thy peace and Thy love, O Lord our God, for all things hast Thou bestowed upon us.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: And the mercies of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ be with you all.

Choir: And with thy spirit.

Litany before the Lord's Prayer

Deacon (or Priest) Having remembered all the Saints, again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For the precious gifts set forth and sanctified, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That our God, the Lover of man, accepting them upon His holy, most heavenly, and ideal Altar for an odor of spiritual sweetness, might send down upon us in return the divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

An angel of peace, a faithful guide and guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Pardon and forgiveness of our sins and offenses, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

All things good and useful for our souls and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

That we may end the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

A Christian ending to our life, painless, unashamed, peaceful, and a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Having asked for the unity of the faith and the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

The priest silently prays this Prayer during the Litany.

O our God, the God of salvation, do Thou teach us how we may worthily give thanks unto Thee, for Thy benefits, which Thou hast done and which Thou dost do for us. Do Thou, O our God, who acceptest these Gifts, purify us from every pollution of flesh and spirit, and teach us to perfect holiness in thy fear; that we, in the witness of a pure conscience, receiving a portion of Thy Holy Things, may be made one with the holy Body and Blood of Thy Christ; and that having received them worthily, we may have Christ dwelling in our hearts and may become a temple of Thy Holy Spirit. Yea, O our God, make none of us blameworthy of these Thy dread and heavenly Mysteries, or infirm in soul or in body, by partaking unworthily of them,

but grant us even unto our last breath, worthily to receive a portion of Thy Holy Things, as a provision on the way to life eternal, as an acceptable defense at the fearful judgment seat of Thy Christ, that we also, together with all the Saints, who in all ages have been well-pleasing unto Thee, may be made partakers of Thine eternal good things, which Thou hast prepared for those who love Thee, O Lord.

The Lord's Prayer

Priest: And vouchsafe, O Master, that with boldness and without condemnation, we may dare to call upon Thee, the heavenly God and Father, and to say:

Choir: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Priest: For Thine are the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Priest: Bow your heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: O Master, Lord, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, bless, sanctify, guard, fortify,

empower those who have bowed their heads unto Thee; withdraw from them every evil work; join them to every good work; and vouchsafe that without condemnation, they may partake of these Thine immaculate and life-creating Mysteries, unto the forgiveness of their sins, and unto communion of the Holy Spirit.

Through the grace and compassion and love of man of Thine only-begotten Son with whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Attend, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, from Thy holy dwelling place and from the glorious throne of Thy kingdom, and come to sanctify us, O Thou that sittest with the Father above, and that art invisibly present here with us. And vouchsafe, by Thy strong right hand to impart to us Thine immaculate Body and Thy precious Blood, and through us, to all Thy people.

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: The holy Things are for the holy.

Choir: One is holy, one is the Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

During the Priest's Communion, the choir and people, by local custom, sing Psalms and prayers of preparation for Holy Communion.

Psalm 22 (23)

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want; He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, He leadeth me beside the still waters, He restoreth my soul, He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 23 (24)

The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof, the world and all that dwell therein. He hath founded it upon the seas, and upon the rivers hath He prepared it. Who shall go up to the mountain of the Lord? or who shall stand in His holy place? He that is innocent in hands and pure in heart, who hath not lifted up his soul to vanity, and hath not sworn deceitfully to his neighbor. He shall receive a blessing from the Lord, and mercy from God his Savior. This is the generation of them that seek the Lord, of them that seek the face of the God of Jacob. Lift up your gates, O ye princes, and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting gates, and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in war. Lift up your gates, O ye princes; and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting gates, and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory.

Psalm 115 (116:10-19)
I believed, wherefore I spake; I was humbled exceedingly. As for me, I said in mine ecstasy: Every man is a liar. What shall I render unto the Lord for all that He hath rendered unto me? I will take the cup of salvation, and I will call upon the name of the Lord. My vows unto the Lord will I pay in the presence of all His people. Honorable before the Lord is the death of His saints. O Lord, I am Thy servant; I am Thy servant and the son of thy handmaid. Thou hast broken my bonds asunder. I will sacrifice a sacrifice of praise unto thee, and I will call upon the name of the Lord. My vows unto the Lord will I pay in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem.

O Lord Born of the Virgin, tone 6
O Lord born of the Virgin, / regard not my transgressions: / cleanse Thou my heart, / and make of it a temple of Thy most pure Body and Blood; / cast me not away from Thy presence, // O Thou who hast mercy without measure.

How dare I take of Thy Hallowed Things, / unworthy as I am? / For if I make bold to draw near unto Thee among them that are worthy, / and it appeareth that I have no wedding garment, / I do but procure the condemnation of my most sinful soul; / cleanse my defiled soul, O Lord, and save me, // for Thou art the lover of mankind.

Great is the multitude of my transgressions, O Theotokos: / unto thy purity I have recourse, seeking salvation; / visit my soul in mine infirmity, / and pray Thy Son our God / to grant me the remission of mine evil deeds, // O Thou who alone art blessed.

I Believe, O Lord, and I Confess, tone 6
I believe, O Lord, and I confess, / that Thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, / who didst come into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. / And I believe that this is Thine own immaculate Body, / and that this is Thine own precious Blood. / Wherefore, I pray Thee: have mercy on me, / and pardon my trespasses, voluntary and involuntary, / in word or in deed, / in knowledge and in ignorance, / and make me worthy without condemnation / to partake of Thine immaculate Mysteries, // unto forgiveness of sins and unto life eternal.

Of Thy mystical supper, O Son of God, / accept me today as a communicant, / for I will not speak of Thy Mystery to Thine enemies, / neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss, / but like the thief will I confess Thee, // Remember me, O Lord, in Thy kingdom.

May this partaking of Thy holy Mysteries, / be neither unto my judgment nor unto my condemnation, O Lord, // but unto the healing of soul and body.

Holy Communion

The Royal Doors are opened and the Priest brings the chalice out. The people cross themselves and bow to the waist if it is Sunday or make a prostration on a weekday.

Deacon: In the fear of God, with faith and love, draw near.

Orthodox Christians older than seven who have prepared themselves for Holy Communion by prayer (at home), fasting (Wednesday, Friday of the previous week and from midnight Sunday morning) and a recent confession to a priest (in the past month) along with baptized children seven or younger now come to receive the Holy Mysteries with arms crossed left over right. We do not cross ourselves at the chalice lest we should hit it with our hand, but after receiving the Mysteries we kiss the chalice.

Choir: Receive the body of Christ. Taste the fountain of immortality. *After all have communed:* Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

But on Holy Thursday, we sing:
Of Thy mystical Supper, O Son of God,
accept me today as a communicant,
for I will not speak of Thy mystery to Thine enemies,
neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss,
but like the thief will I confess Thee:
Remember me, O Lord, in Thy kingdom.

Priest: O God, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

Choir: We have seen the true Light. We have received the heavenly Spirit. We have found the true Faith, worshipping the undivided Trinity, for He hath saved us.

Priest: Always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Let our mouths be filled with Thy praise O Lord, that we may hymn Thy glory, for Thou hast made us worthy to partake of Thy holy, immortal, and life-creating Mysteries. Preserve us in Thy holiness, that all the day long we may meditate on Thy righteousness. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Litany of Thanksgiving

Deacon: Attend! Having partaken of the divine, holy, immaculate, immortal, heavenly, and dread Mysteries of Christ, let us worthily give thanks unto the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Having asked that the whole day be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us commend ourselves, each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

The Priest prays quietly during the litany:

We give thanks to Thee, O man-loving Master, Benefactor of our souls, for that thou hast vouchsafed unto us this present day Thy heavenly and immortal Mysteries. Make our way straight. Establish us all in

Thy fear. Guard our life. Make firm our steps, through the prayers and supplications of the glorious Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary and of all Thy saints.

The Priest exclaims: For Thou art our sanctification, and unto Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Let us depart in peace.

Choir: In the name of the Lord.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Prayer behind the Ambon

The junior priest exits the altar and prays:

Priest: Blessing those that bless Thee, O Lord, and sanctifying those that trust in Thee, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, preserve the fullness of Thy Church, sanctify those that love the beauty of Thy house: glorify them in return by Thy divine power, and forsake us not that hope in Thee. Give peace to Thy world, to Thy churches, to the priests, to all civil authorities, and to all Thy people. For every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and cometh down from Thee, the Father of lights, and unto Thee to we send up glory, thanksgiving, and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Blessed be the name of the Lord henceforth and forevermore. Blessed be the name of the Lord henceforth and forevermore. Blessed be the name of the Lord henceforth and forevermore.

Psalm 33

I will bless the Lord at all times;
His praise shall be continually in my mouth.
In the Lord, my soul shall make her boast;
let the meek hear and be glad.
O magnify the Lord with me;
and let us exalt His name together.
I sought the Lord and He heard me;
and delivered me from all mine afflictions.
Draw nigh to Him and be enlightened;
and your faces shall not be ashamed.
This poor one cried and the Lord heard him,
and saved him from all his tribulations.
The angel of the Lord shall encamp round about them
that fear him and shall deliver them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good;
blessed is the man that hopeth in Him.
Fear the Lord all ye His Saints,
for there is no lack for them that fear Him.
The rich have become poor and hungry,
but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing.
Come, ye children, hearken unto me;
the fear of the Lord will I teach you.
Who is the man that wanteth life, loving to see good
days?

Withhold thy tongue from evil and thy lips that they speak no deceit.
Shun evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.
The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous and His ears unto their prayers.
But the face of the Lord is upon them that do evil,
to blot out their memory from the earth.
The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them,
and delivered them from all their tribulations.
The Lord is nigh to them that are of a broken heart,
and He shall save the humble in spirit.
Many are the tribulations of the righteous,
but out of them all shall the Lord deliver them.
The Lord keepeth all their bones, and not one of them shall be broken.
The death of sinners is evil, and they that hate the righteous shall offend.
The Lord shall deliver the souls of His servants,
and none of them that hope in Him shall offend.

Priest: The blessing of the Lord and His mercy be upon you through His grace and love of man always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ God, our Hope, glory to Thee.

Choir: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Father (Master), bless.

The Dismissal

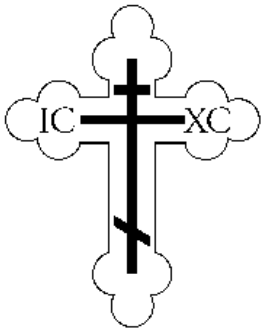
Priest: May [*on Sundays:* He who is risen from the dead], Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate Mother, of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostles, of our Father among the Saints, Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesaria in Cappodocia, of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers Maximus the Confessor... *[the North American Saints and the Saint(s) of the day]*, of the holy and righteous forebears of God Joachim and Anna, and of all the Saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and the Lover of man.

Choir: Amen.

The Choir sings the Many Years

His beatitude the most blessed Herman, Archbishop of Washington and New York, Metropolitan of all America and Canada; his Eminence the most-reverend Dmitri, Archbishop of Dallas and the South, this God-protected land, the civil authorities, and all Orthodox Christians, preserve, O Lord, for many years.

The End of the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great



Following any announcements, the people come to venerate the Cross (cross yourself, kiss Christ's feet on the Cross, kiss the priest's hand), receive the antidoron bread, and make any freewill offering they desire. The choir sings the troparia of our North American Saints. After the troparia, the Prayers of Thanksgiving after Holy Communion are read. These prayers are to be prayed by all communicants on the day they receive Holy Communion, either in church following Communion or at home.

Prayers of Thanksgiving after Holy Communion

Glory to Thee, O God; glory to Thee, O God; glory to Thee, O God.

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

I thank Thee, O Lord my God, that Thou hast not rejected me a sinner, but that Thou hast vouchsafed me to become a communicant of Thy Holy Things. I thank Thee that Thou hast vouchsafed me, who am unworthy, to partake of Thine immaculate and heavenly Gifts. But, Master, Lover of man, who for us didst dies and didst rise again, and grantest us these Thy dread and life-creating Mysteries, for the benefit and sanctification of our souls and bodies, grant that they may become for me unto healing of soul and body, unto the averting of every adversary, unto the enlightenment of the eyes of my heart, unto the peace of my spiritual powers, unto faith unashamed, unto love unfeigned, unto the fulfilling wisdom, unto the observance of Thy commandments, unto the increase of Thy divine grace, and unto the

attainment of Thy kingdom, that, kept by them in Thy holiness, I may every remember Thy grace and never live unto myself, but unto Thee, our Master and Benefactor. And thus, when this life shall have passed away in the hope of life eternal, I may attain unto everlasting rest, where the voice of them that keep festival is unceasing, and the bliss of them that behold the unutterable beauty of Thy face. For Thou art the true desire and in inexpressible gladness of them that love Thee, O Christ our God, and all creation hymneth Thee unto the ages. Amen.

Of St. Basil the Great

O Master, Christ God, King of the ages and Author of all things, I thank Thee for all the good things which Thou hast granted me, and for the communion of Thine immaculate and life-creating Mysteries. I pray Thee, therefore, O Good One, Lover of man, keep me under Thy shelter and in the shadow of Thy wings, and grant me worthily to partake of Thy Holy Things with a clean conscience until my last breath, unto forgiveness of sins and unto life eternal. For Thou art the Bread of life, the Fountain of holiness, the Giver of good things, and unto Thee do we send up glory, with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Of St. Simeon Metaphrastes

O Thou who dost willingly give Thy flesh to me as food, who art a fire burning the unworthy, let me not be consumed, O my Maker; rather, enter Thou into all my members, into all my joints, reins, heart. Burn Thou the thorns of all mine iniquities; purify my soul; sanctify my

reasoning. Strengthen my knees and my bones. Enlighten the simplicity of my five senses. Nail the whole of me together with the fear of Thee. Ever shelter, guard, and keep me from every soul-corrupting deed and word. Make me clean, purify me, and attune me. Beautify me, give me understanding, enlighten me. Show me to be the habitation of sin, that having become Thy dwelling-place through the entry of communion, I may flee, as from fire, every evil deed and every passion. As intercessors, I bring all the sanctified, the leaders of the Bodiless Hosts, Thy Forerunner, the wise Apostles, and with them, Thine immaculate, pure Mother, whose entreaties, O Tenderhearted One, do thou receive, O my Christ, and make Thy worshipper a child of light. For Thou art, O Good One, the only Sanctification and Brightness of our souls, and unto Thee, as God and Master, do we all fitly send up glory day by day.

Another Prayer

Let Thy holy Body, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, be unto me for eternal life, and Thy precious Blood unto forgiveness of sins. And let this Eucharist be unto me for joy, health, and gladness. And in Thy fearful second coming, make me, a sinner, worthy to stand at the right hand of Thy glory, through the intercessions of Thine immaculate Mother and of all Thy Saints. Amen.

To the Most Holy Theotokos

All-holy Lady, Theotokos, Light of my darkened soul, by hope, my shelter, refuge consolation, joy: I thank Thee that Thou hast made me, the unworthy, worthy to be a communicant of the immaculate Body and precious

Blood of Thy Son. But, Thou who gavest birth to the true Light, enlighten my heart's intellectual eyes; Thou who didst carry in Thy womb the Fountain of immortality, enliven me who am slain by sin. Thou Mother of the merciful God, Thyself full of loving-kindness, have mercy on me, and grant me contrition and compunction of heart and humility in my thoughts, and the recall of my reasoning from its captivity. And make me worthy, till my last breath, without condemnation, to receive the sanctification of the immaculate Mysteries, unto healing of soul and body, and grant me tears of repentance and confession, that I may hymn Thee and glorify Thee all the days of my life, for blessed and glorified art Thou unto the ages. Amen.

We depart giving thanks unto God for all things.

Troparion and Kontakia of St. Maximus

St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

By an outpouring of the Holy Spirit / thou didst pour forth Christ's sacred teachings, / thou didst expound with Divine authority / the self-emptying of God the Word / and wast radiant in thy confession of the True Faith:/ O, Glorious Father Maximus / pray to Christ our God / to grant us His great mercy.

St. Maximus, Kontakion tone 8 *Serbian Melody*

Let us the faithful praise with fitting hymns / that lover of the Holy Trinity, great Maximus, / who clearly taught the divinely-given Faith: / that we should give glory unto Christ our God, / Who, but one person, hath in very truth / two natures, wills, and energies. / Let us cry to him: // Rejoice, divine herald of the Faith.

St. Maximus, Kontakion, tone 6

The thrice-radiant Light which abode in thy soul / showed thee to be a chosen vessel / revealing divine things to the ends of the earth, / O blessed Maximus, who givest utterance to concepts hard to grasp, / and manifestly proclaimest unto all // the transcendent and unoriginate Trinity.

Troparia and Kontakia of the Resurrection for Sundays

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews / and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Saviour, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven, therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of life: /

Glory to the Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! / Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Lover of man.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 1

Thou hast risen from the grave as God in glory / and Thou didst raise the world with Thee, / and human nature hymneth Thee as God, / and death hath vanished. / Adam exulteth, O Master, / and Eve, delivered from her bondage, now rejoiceth, crying: / Thou, O Christ, / art He who granteth to all the Resurrection!

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 2

When Thou, didst descend to death, O Life Immortal / Thou didst slay Hell with the lightning-flash of Thy Divinity, / and, when from the nether regions Thou didst raise the dead, / all the powers of Heaven cried out: / 'O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!'

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 2

Thou didst rise from the grave, all –powerful Saviour; / and Hades, seeing the wonder, was affrighted; / and the dead arose; and creation, beholding, rejoiceth with Thee; / and with Thee Adam also is glad; / and the world, O my Saviour, hymneth Thee forever.

Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 3

Let those in Heaven rejoice, / let those on Earth be glad; / for the Lord hath wrought a mighty act with His arm./ He hath trampled down death by death; / He hath become the first-born of the dead.
/ From the womb of hell hath He delivered us, // and hath granted the world great mercy.

Resurrectional Kontakion, Tone 3

Today Thou didst rise from the grave, O compassionate One, / and didst lead us away from the gates of death. / Today Adam exulteth, and Eve rejoiceth. / Together with the prophets and patriarchs // they unceasingly hymn the Divine might of Thine authority.

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 4

Having learned the radiant proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, /the women disciples of the Lord cast off the ancestral curse, /and, boasting, told the Apostles: /Death hath been despoiled, Christ God is risen, /granting the world great mercy.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 4

My Saviour and Deliverer as God/ hath raised out of the grave the earth-born from their bonds / and He hath shattered the gates of hell / and as Master / He hath risen on the third day.

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 5

Let us the faithful hymn and worship the Word / who with the Father and the Spirit hath no beginning, / and was born for our salvation of the Virgin; / for He was pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, / and to endure death / and to raise the dead / by His glorious Resurrection.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 5

Thou didst descend to Hades, O my Savior; / and, having shattered its gates as all-powerful; / Thou as Creator didst raise the dead with Thee; / and Thou didst destroy the sting of death, / and Adam hath been delivered from the curse, O Lover of Man. / Wherefore, we all cry: Save us, O Lord!

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 6

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb / and the guards became as dead men, / Mary stood by Thy grave, / seeking Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst despoil hell, not being tempted by it, / Thou didst go to meet the Virgin granting life, / O Lord, who didst rise from the dead, / glory to Thee.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 6

With his life-originating palm, from the valleys of gloom, / the Life-giver Christ God hath raised all the dead. / He hath bestowed resurrection on the human race /, for He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, and Life, and God of all.

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 7

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. / To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. / For the myrrh-bearers Thou didst change their lamentation into joy. / And Thou didst command Thine Apostles, O Christ God, / to proclaim that Thou art risen, / granting unto the world great mercy.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 7

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, / for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. / Hell is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry: / the Savior hath come to those in faith. / Enter, ye faithful, into the Resurrection.

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 8

Thou didst descend from on high, O tenderhearted One. / Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our passions. / O Lord, our life and resurrection, glory to Thee.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 8

Having risen from the tomb Thou didst waken the dead and raise Adam, / and Eve exulteth in Thy Resurrection, / and the

ends of the world keep festival for Thy rising from the dead, O Most Merciful One.

Theotokion, tone 6

O Protection of Christians that is not put to shame, / unchanging mediation before the Creator, / despise not the voice of the sinner's prayer, / but in that thou art good come quickly to help us who call upon thee in faith, / make speed to intercede and make haste to supplicate, / O Theotokos, who dost ever protect those that honor thee.

Troparia and Kontakia of the Great Fast

Sunday of Orthodoxy, Troparion, tone 2

We venerate Thine immaculate icon, O Good One, / asking pardon of our offenses, O Christ God. / For Thou wast pleased of thy good will to ascend the Cross in the flesh, / to deliver those whom Thou hadst fashioned from bondage to the enemy. / Wherefore, in thanksgiving, we cry out to Thee: / Thou hast filled all things with joy, O our Savior, having come to save the world.

Sunday of Orthodoxy, Kontakion, tone 8

The uncircumscribed Word of the Father became circumscribed, / taking flesh from thee, O Theotokos, / and He hath restored the sullied image to its ancient glory, filling it with the divine beauty. / This our salvation we confess in deed and word, and we depict it in the holy icons.

Second Sunday of Lent, Gregory Palamas, Troparion, tone 8

O Gregory the Wonderworker, light of Orthodoxy, / support and teacher of the Church, / glory of monks and invincible protector of theologians, / pride of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, / pray without ceasing for the salvation of our souls.

Gregory Palamas, Kontakion, tone 8

Holy and divine instrument of wisdom, joyful trumpet of theology, / with one accord we sing thy praises, O Gregory inspired by God. / But since thou standest now in mind and spirit before the Original Mind, / guide our minds to Him, O father that we may cry to thee: Rejoice, preacher of grace.

Kontakion of the Second Sunday of Lent, tone 4

The season of the virtues now hath come, /and the Judge is at the door. / Let us not hold back with darkened face, / but let us keep the Fast, / offering tears, contrition, and almsgiving; / and let us cry out: / our sins are more in number than the sands of the sea, / but Deliverer of all, forgive each one of us, // that we may receive an incorruptible crown.

Sunday of the Cross, Troparion, tone 1

O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance. / Grant victory to Orthodox Christians / over the enemy; / and by Thy Cross / preserve Thine estate.

Kontakion of the Third Sunday of Lent, tone 7 (Cross)

The fiery sword no longer guardeth the gate of Eden, / for in a strange and glorious way / the wood of the Cross hath quenched its flames. / The sting of death and the victory of hell are now destroyed, / for Thou art come, O my Savior, / crying unto those in hell: / "Return again to Paradise."

Fourth Sunday of Lent, John Climacus, Troparion tone 1

O John, our father, saint of God, thou was revealed as a citizen of the desert, / an angel in a body and a worker of miracles. / Through fasting, prayer and vigils, /thou hast received heavenly gifts of grace, /and thou healest the sick and the souls of those that turn to thee with faith. / Glory be to Him who gave thee strength; / glory, be to Him who crowned

thee / glory be to Him who through thee grants to all men healing.

John Climacus, Kontakion, tone 4

Truly the Lord hath set thee as fixed star in the firmament of abstinence, / giving light to the ends of the earth / O father John our teacher.

Fifth Sunday of Lent, Mary of Egypt, Troparion tone 8

In thee the image was preserved with exactness, O Mother; / for taking up thy cross, thou didst follow Christ, / and by thy deeds thou didst teach us to overlook the flesh, for it passeth away, / but to attend to the soul since it is immortal. / Wherefore, O righteous Mary, thy spirit rejoiceth with the Angels.

Mary of Egypt, Kontakion, tone 3

Once thou wast defiled with every impurity, / but today through repentance thou hast become the Bride of Christ. / Desiring the life of the angels, / thou hast cast down the demons with the weapon of the Cross: / therefore, O glorious Mary, thou was made a bride of the Kingdom.

January 1: Circumcision of the Lord, St. Basil the Great

Troparion, tone 1 *of the Hierarch*

Thy sound hath gone forth into all the earth,
which hath received thy discourse,
whereby thou didst divinely teach and make clear the nature of things,
and didst adorn the ways of men.
O venerable father Basil, thou royal priesthood,
entreat Christ God that our souls be saved.

Troparion, tone 1 *of the feast*

O Jesus, who in the highest dost sit with Thine unoriginate Father
and the divine Spirit upon a fiery throne,
thou was well-pleased to be born on earth of thy Mother,
a Maiden who knew not a man;
wherefore, Thou wast circumcised as a babe eight days of age.
Glory to Thine all-good counsel!
Glory, to Thy dispensation!
Glory to Thy condescension, O Thou who alone lovest mankind!

Kontakion, tone 4 *of the Hierarch*

Thou hast been shown to be the unshakable foundation of the Church,
bestowing upon all men a dominion which cannot be taken away,
and sealing them with precepts,
O venerable Basil,
who revealest heavenly things.

Kontakion of the Feast, tone 3

The Lord of all endureth circumcision,
and, in that He is good, cutteth away the transgressions of men,
and today granteth salvation to the world.
And Basil, the high priest of the Creator,
the radiant and divine initiate of the mysteries of Christ,
rejoiceth on high.